



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

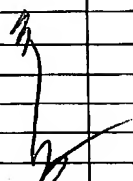
(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 5

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/679,924
Filing Date	October 6, 2003
First Named Inventor	Yeckley
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	K-1688C

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
1/2		US- 4,127,416	11/1978	Lumby et al.	
		US- 4,563,433	01/1986	Yeckley et al.	
		US- 4,711,644	12/1987	Yeckley et al.	
		US- 4,826,791	05/1989	Mehrotra et al.	
		US- 4,880,755	11/1989	Mehrotra et al.	
		US- 5,032,553	07/1991	Tarry	
		US- 5,200,374	04/1993	Yamada et al.	
		US- 5,370,716	12/1994	Mehrotra et al.	
		US- 5,413,972	05/1995	Hwang et al.	
		US- 5,468,696	11/1995	Ishizawa et al.	
		US- 5,618,766	04/1997	Higuchi et al.	
		US- 5,648,042	07/1997	Miller, Jr.	
		US- 5,908,798	06/1999	Chen et al.	
		US- 6,124,225	09/2000	Tien et al.	
		US- 6,139,791	10/2000	Chen et al.	
		US- 6,471,734	10/2002	Yeckley	
		US- 4,547,470	10/1985	Tanase et al.	
		US- 5,369,065	11/1994	Yoshimura et al.	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	7 ⁵
		Country Code ³ Number* Kind Code ⁴ (if known)				
		5-43333 Japan	02/1993			/
		5208870 Japan	08/1993			/
		6-32658 Japan	02/1994			/
		2966644 Japan	10/1999			/
		2988966 Japan	12/1999			/
		0002829 PCT	01/2000			/

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	3/14/04
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		Application Number	10/679,924
		Filing Date	October 6, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Yeckley
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 3	of 5	Attorney Docket Number	K-1688C

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
WZ		Notification of Transmittal of the International Preliminary Examination Report, International Patent Application No. PCT/US01/47094 mailed Jan 1, 2003.	✓
		International Preliminary Examination Report, International Patent Application No. PCT/US01/47094 mailed Feb. 2, 2003.	
		MENIK et al., "Quantitative Phase Analysis of Synthetic Silicon Nitride By X-Ray Diffraction", pp. 375-379 (date unknown)	
		WATARI et al., "Reaction Process and Densification Process of Mixed a'/b'-Sialon Ceramics", Dept. of Ceramics Science, National Ind. Research Institute of Nagoya, Hirate-cho, Kita-ku, Nagoya, 462 Japan (07/1994) pp. 173-184	
		NORDBERG et al., "Stability and Oxidation Properties of RE-a-Sialon Ceramics (RE=Y, Nd, Sm, Yb) pp. 1461-1470 Manuscript No. 191692 (09/1997) Am. Cer. Society	✓
		SHEN et al., "Reactions Occuring in Post Heat-Treated a/b Sialons: On the Thermal Stability of a-Sialon" Journal of EP Cer. Soc. 16 (11/1995)	✓
		WANG et al., "Formation and Densification of R-a'-Sialons (R=Nd, Sm, Gd, Dy, Er and Yb) Mat. Res. Soc. Symp. Proc. Vol. 287 (1993) Materials Research Soc.	
WZ		Shue, "Microstructure and Mechanical Properties of the In Situ b-Si ₃ N ₄ /a'-SiAlON Composite", J. Am. Ceramic Soc. 77 (1994) pp. 2345-2353	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	3/11/04
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Complete If Known

Application Number	10/679,924
Filing Date	October 6, 2003
First Named Inventor	Yeckley
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	K-1688C

Sheet	2	of	6
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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CLASS

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**Examiner
Signature**

Date Considered

3/11/04

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Sheet 5 of 5

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
3		English Abstract of JP-4002664A, High-Strength SiAlON Based Sintered Compact, April 1990	✓
		PUDDEPHATT et al., "The Periodic Table of the Elements", Clarendon Press (1986) pp. 90-95	✓
		IZHEVSKIY et al., Progress in SiAlON Ceramics, Journal of the European Cer. Soc., 20 (2000) pp. 2275-2295	✓
3		CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, CRC Press (1998) pp. 4-121	✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	3/11/04
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Sheet	4	of	5

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[Signature]		MANDAL, "SiAlON Ceramics Sintered with Additions of Yb2O3, Dy2O3, and Sm2O3 or as Mixtures with Y2O3", 8th Int'l Met. & Mat'l Congress II, Istanbul, Turkey (1995) pp. 845-850	/
		WANG et al., "Preparation of R-a'-b'-Sialons (R=Sm, Gd, Dy, Y and Yb) by Pressureless Sintering", Journal of European Cer. Soc., 13 (1994), pp. 461-465	/
		SHEN et al., "Ytterbium-Stabilized a-sialon Ceramics", J. Phys. D. Appl. Phys. 29 (1996) pp. 893-904	/
		Wittmer et al., "Economic Comparison of Continuous and Batch Sintering of Silicon Nitride", Am. Cer. Soc. Bulletin, Vol.72 No.6, June 1993 pp.129-137	
		WITTMER et al., "Comparison of Continuous Sintering to Batch Sintering of Si3N4", Cer. Bulletin, Vol.70 No. 9 (1991) pp. 1519-1527	
		WITTMER et al., "Continuous Sintering of Si3N4 in a Controlled Atmosphere Belt Furnace", (1991) pp. 546-562	/
		English Abstract of JP-4046062A, SiAlON Sintered Body and Production Thereof and Gas Turbine-Blade Using the Same, June 1990	
		English Abstract of JP-3290373A, SiAlON-based Sintered Material and Production Thereof, April 1990	/
		English Abstract of JP-4042864A, Highly Strong SiAlON Sintered Product, June 1990	/

Examiner Signature	[Signature]	Date Considered	3/11/04
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